Interests of Chinese Power Companies in Power Generation Sector

45. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Chinese power companies propose to gain foothold in our power generation sector;

(b) whether these firms propose to work in collaboration with State power projects or set up their own independent power plants;

(c) if so, the details of such plants where the Chinese firms have shown interest;

(d) whether this will affect the interests of private sector; and

(e) if so, the action plan of Government to protect their interests?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir. Chinese power companies are participating in the various power projects where international competitive bidding has been adopted by utilities.

(b) and (c) As per the information of Central Electricity Authority, the chinese power companies will be supplying main plant and equipments to the utilities. Order has been placed by utilities to the following Chinese power companies and the same are under execution:

Name of Power Station	Excuting Agency	Capacity	Order placed on
Sagardighi Thermal Power Station (West Bengal)	West Bengal Power Development Corpn. Ltd.	2x300MW	Dang Fang Electric, China
Durgapur Thermal Power Station (West Bengal)	Durgapur Projects Ltd.	1x300MW	Dang fang Electric, China.
Yamuna Nagar Thermal Power Station (Haryana)	Haryana Power Generation Corpn. Ltd.	2x300 MW	Reliance Energy Ltd. (Has offered equipments of M/s. Dang Fnag Electric, China)
BALCO Captive Power Plant (Korba, Chhattisgarh)	Bharat Aluminium Co. Ltd.	4x135 MW	M/s. SEPCO Electric Power Corpn., China

(d) No, Sir. The participation of the Chinese companies will bring competition in the bidding process and the prices of the main plant & equipments are likely to be more competitive, resulting in lower tariff to the consumers.

(e) Government of India has formulated the electricity Act, 2003 in which Thermal Power Generation has been delicensed and any generating company including private sector can set up power plant anywhere in the country subject to meeting the technical standards relating to connectivity with the grid. Hence, the interest of private sector has been adequately taken care of in the new Act.

Athirapilly Hydro Electric Project in Kerala

46. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:
SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 'Athirapilly Hydro Electric Project' in Kerala has been submitted to the Centre for necessary clearances;

(b) if so, the details of the project; and

(c) the details regarding the present status of the project?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Athirappilly Hydro Electric Project envisages creation of reservoir in chalakkudy river by constructing a gravity dam 23m high located downstream of the existing Poringalkuthu Left Bank Power House and utilizing the water for power generation. The project envisages installation of two units of 80 MW each and one unit of 3 MW giving a total capacity of 163 MW.

The project was techno-economically cleared by CEA on 13.5.1996 at an estimated cost of Rs. 230.48 crores (including IDC of Rs. 40.84 crores) at 1994-95 price level. Forest clearance for diversion of 138.60 Ha of forest land and environment clearance were accorded on 16.12.1999 and 20.1.1998 respectively subject to certain conditions. However, the environmental clearance was suspended on 19.11.2001 pursuant to the judgment dated 17.10.2001 of the High Court of Kerala. The environment clearance is to be reconsidered based on the report of